

## REMARKS

Claims 46-53 are pending. In the Office Action dated December 10, 2004, claims 47, 48 and 50-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Metlitsky. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Metlitsky in view of Obata. Claims 1-34 have been canceled. Claims 35-46 have been withdrawn. Claims 47 and 53 are amended herein.

### **Claims 47, 48, and 50-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Applicants believe claim 47 as amended is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Metlitsky. Applicants note that Metlitsky's plurality of beams sweep in interleaved scan paths 13a, 13b, and 13c across a substantially fully overlapping field of view 79.

In contrast, in the present system of claim 47 as amended, the "at least one beam scanner" is "operable to scan the beams across substantially non-overlapping respective regions of a field of view." Applicants believe the Examiner has not shown Metlitsky to provide this structure.

Applicants believe claim 47 as amended is allowable over the cited art.

Claim 48 depends from claim 47 and is therefore narrower than claim 47. Accordingly, claim 48 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 47.

Claim 50 depends from claim 47 and is therefore narrower than claim 47. Accordingly, claim 50 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 47.

Claim 51 depends from claim 47 and is therefore narrower than claim 47. Accordingly, claim 51 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 47.

Claim 52 depends from claim 47 and is therefore narrower than claim 47. Accordingly, claim 52 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 47.

Claim 53 as amended is allowable for reasons similar to those given for claim 47. Metlitsky's plurality of beams sweep in interleaved scan paths 13a, 13b, and 13c across a substantially fully overlapping field of view 79. In contrast, claim 53 recites "at least two beam scanners operable to sweep respective beams across respective substantially non-overlapping regions of a field of view."

Claim 54 depends from claim 53 and is therefore narrower than claim 53. Accordingly, claim 54 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 53.

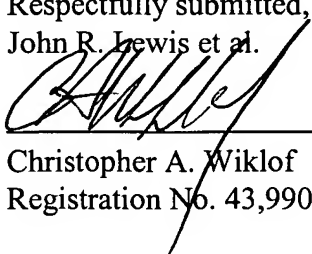
**Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claim 49 depends from claim 47 and is therefore narrower than claim 47. Accordingly, claim 49 is allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 47.

Claim 49 is further allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Metlitsky in view of Obata. Applicants note that the Examiner has not shown Obata to provide the missing "at least one beam scanner" that is "operable to scan the beams across substantially non-overlapping respective regions of a field of view," that is missing from Metlitsky. Applicants thus believe claim 49 to be allowable over the cited art.

Applicants submit that no new matter is being submitted. The Examiner is invited to contact Mr. Christopher A. Wiklof at (425) 415-6641 with any issues that may advance prosecution of the application on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,  
John R. Lewis et al.



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Christopher A. Wiklof  
Registration No. 43,990

CAW:cfl

Enclosures:

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Microvision, Inc.

19910 North Creek Parkway

PO Box 3008

Bothell, WA 98011

(425) 415-6641

(425) 481-1625 facsimile